# President's News Conference on Foreign and Domestic Issues

Following is a transcript of President Reagan's news conference last night in Washington, as recorded by The New York Times:

# OPENING STATEMENT

Be seated. I have a brief opening statement besides a saving and evening. One week gap today in Lood on, I folmed the leaders of six major industrialized democracies for the annual economic summit and we ment to take the pulse of the world economy, to measure the impact of the world economy, to measure the world economy, to economics had a more than the world economy, to measure the world economy, to me statement: besides saying good evening. One week gap today in London, I planed the leaders of six major annual economic summit and we met to take the pulse of the world economy, to measure the impact of the policies that we've been implementing during the past three years, and to london the property and peace that we share.

Change comes neither easily nor quickly in foreign affairs but there was recognition in London that while years are not property and peace that we share.

Change comes neither easily nor quickly in foreign affairs but there was recognition in London that while years are not proposed to the property and peace that we share.

Change comes neither easily nor quickly in foreign affairs but there was recognition in London that while years are not proposals for increasing confidence working together, by sticking to our policies, we've made impressive progress since 1981. The Western democracies have been moving from weakness to strength, from disapproper of the proposals for increasing confidence provided to the proposals for increasing confidence providence and hope for a better furner. In 1981, our economies had an average growth of only 18 percent unfall to the providence of the providence and hope for a better furner. In 1981, our economies had an average growth of only 18 percent and 84 percent inflation. But, led by the recovery and now the expansion in the day is up to 4 percent while inflation has been cut in half.

There was recognition that the incentives of America's providers of the providence of the provide

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Summit Talks

Summit Talks

Q. Mr. President, no matter what you say you've done so far, two Republican leaders don't think you're done so far, two Republican leaders don't think you're to hold regular summit meetings for to hold regular summit meetings for the second of the second Advance Preparation

Q: Mr. President; do we understand you to say that you're willing a common the property of the property o

that a summit could, ufirmately occur?

A: Wel, we are taking steps. We're this is what I mean by quiet diplomation may be a summit of the communication of the communication of the communication, the Sovide Ieadership. There is one thing that I think many of you fail to recognize and that is, there have been three Russian heads of state since I became President, Ope of them, I know personally, The secondary of the communication of the communicati

# arguing with someone or not arguing with someone. There've been a lot of changes over there. But we're ready, willing and able.

This has been investigated thoroughly.

Q. Sir, in recent speeches this year about the Soviets you have held out an olive branch to them, but at the same time you usually either denounce their system or their actions. Would it into the same time you usually either denounce their system or their actions. Would it into the same time you usually either denounce their system or their actions, good the summit or back in Geneva, if you the summit or back in Geneva, if you the summit or back in Geneva, if you they summit or back in Geneva, if you they would be them?

A. Well, I don't think I've gone out onlying, of you then them parche with the condition of the protestations of wanting peace and cooperation, such as walking away from the army talks. I don't think that the protestations of wanting peace and them referring to the funcarial service for the unknown soldier as a militaristic orgy. If we're going to talk about comparisons of rhetoric, they we stoped me in spades. Lesley.

A. You know, you shorten the number of questions we're getting with all these follow-ups.

Q. All right. Thank you. Anytime.

Q. I don't know if everyone is left au unclear as I am on whom we stand unclear as I am on whom we stand unclear as I am on whom we have the same proper to the same protests.



steps. . What is your estimation, sir, on a

time frame? A. I couldn't give you one. Division in Soviet

Pre-election Debate

Pre-election Debate

O. Mr. President, I'll couleget tack to political games for second, for mer President Carter search for mer President Carter sets for the second for t

Soviet Policy Change

Soviet Policy Change

O. Mr. President, today the chief
Kremin spokesman said we want to
have negotiations with the United
States on a whole complex of issues,
which is certainly something different than Mr. Chernenko said the day
before, Do you read this as a change
before, Do you do the the that is hapsomething going on there that is hapsomething going on there that is hapbefore our two countries?

A. We'll give 'em — we'll take a
chance in finding out on that because,
al say, we are in communication.

If they're ready to talk, we are
too.

**Affirmative Action** 

Leaders of the seven major industrial nations and their foreign ministers meeting last week at the Lancaster House. President Reagan said at his news conference last night that "there was recognition in London that while we continue to face pressing challenges we are on the right track."

pre-planning that you both say is necessary pre-planning that you both say is necessary to the pre-planning that you have been in contact with them on a number of issues that we think — bilateral Issues that we think — bilateral Issues that we think should be discussed between us. Of course, there is the matter of the same takes, also, although we've not be the property of the present the present that the property of the saids. All I can be the property of the saids of the property of the saids.

Q. Is this an invitation?

A. We haven't reached that point

A. We haven't reached that points yet.

Q. I'd like to join Lesley in not being quite sure here. There seems to be a change or something that we have at least not known before. Your communication with the Soviet leadership.

— has that been with Mr. Chernenko, and what — hes they subject been with Mr. Chernenko.

A. No, much of the communication.

A. No, much of the communication has been simply on the broad relationship between our two countries, and my. communication by writing, has been with Mr. Chernenko.

Of It could have found that follow up — sorry.

nas been with Mr. Chernenko.

O, if I could just follow up - sorry
- he's much more gentlemanly
would you be willing to meet with Mr.
Chernenko even if he won't send his
delegation back to the nuclear arms
talks?

A. Yes, yes, I'm willing to meet
with him.

# Relations With Soviet

Relations With Soviet.

Q. Mr. President, you have said recensive and you have said recensive and you have said recensive and the proposed said that the said of the recensive and the proposed said that the said the said that the said the sai

that! No.

Q. Mr. President, as I recall, one of your previous formulations about a summit was that you, would have to have something concrete to show for it. Are you willing to have a summit that does not have a concrete agreement or piece of paper like the new SALT or START treaty or some new initiative toward a SALT or START freaty?

promise their that something might, when you don't plan that well, if I could recall and I don't mean this to be critical of my predecessors, but with Lyndon Chousen. And it was nothing more than that. Then there was a meeting with Kemedy and Khrushchev, and it ddn't ease tensions or make make things any better. This was the meeting in Vienna. It do to even more strains, So, it is a very compact of the country of the count

Q. You're willing to have a summit that does not end in the signing of a treaty on arms control?

A. Oh yes, I've said that once already here.

but a commission that is engaged in a study, I'm quite sure that they're not going to talk about things that they are currently doing. I think the very nature of that kind of investigation would indicate that they will report up and tied up and all the evidence that they need for any conclusions they come to.

Q. To follow up, sir, in your setting up this commission under Judge Kaufman of New York, you specified they. Are your stall concerned about some they come to the set of th

### **Deficit Reduction**

Q. Mr. President, you noted in your opening remarks the debates on the Hill about the deficit reduction package. Given some problems we're having with the spending side but not on the tax side, would you be willing to sign a tax package without a spending package in the problems we're have been seen to be supported to be a supported by it is a package without a pending package without a prediging actage was comprised along.

A. Only if I had assurance that the spending package was coming along. There would be no point in the other. This triad that was worked out, this triad that was worked out, this ling, defense cuts that we finally agreed to, and some changes, some reforms in the tax structure that closs some certain loopholes and so forth, this tax of got organized the same kind of treatment on the promise of cuts that I never then obtained. And the deficit would be considerably smaller if I never then obtained. And the deficit would be considerably smaller if I for. This time i'm going to be pretty for.

Q. What is your time frame on this?

If you're now willing to negotiate 7.

A. Whenever the conditions that lead to having one would be fine. But lead to having one would be fine. But lead to having one would be fine. But subject and so rushing out for some kind of political advantage to an experiment of political advantage to an immediate 7. That wouldn't do either one of us any good and certainly wouldn't be fair to them. But this is legitimate, the door is open and every once in a while we're standing in the doorway seeing if anyone's coming up to steps. had gotten those cuts that I had asked for. This time I'm going to be pretty sure. Q. Sir, does that mean then you might want them to wait from send. Consideration of the constraint of the taulty completed the spending cuts? A. What I say is, if there is assur-ance that the appropriation bills are going to come up, that they're work-ing on that also, I'm prepared to look them in the eye and then say, "Well, all right," and wait. Yes?

## Hispanic Support

Division in Soviet

Q. Some of your advisers are saying privately that the Soviet leader-ing privately that the Soviet leader-ing setuply so divided and the sound of the soun

Q. Mr. President, if you and your campaign organization spent a lot of time trying to increase your support among illipance voters, yet you consider the property of the prope

# Weapons in Space

Weapons in Space

Q. Mr. President, you've said tonight that you're ready and willing to
talk to the Soviets. But Mr. Cheron antisatellite weapons sting above
passes were presented to the soviety of the soviety
and the fact that you believe there or an insatellite weapons at my beyond the fact that you believe there can't be verification, as you said last weekend, why can't verification be seguited once you sit down with the south of the seguited on the seguited on the seguited of the segu

# **Parity With Soviet**

Affirmative Action
Q. Mr. President, do you interpret
the Supreme Court decision this week
in the Memphis firefighters case as
the death tend of affirmative action
and the destination of the limiting and
promotion?
'Ar No. I don't think that at all. I
think the Supreme Court was interpreting, giving an interpretation of
what the law actually says. And as a
the supreme court was interpreting, giving an interpretation of
what the law actually says. And as a
short suprement the court of the
best suprement of the suprement
when the law actually says. And as a
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when that was being discussed. Huwhen that was being discussed, Huwhen the suprement of the suprement
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when the suprementation of t what the law actually says. And as a mixed for the control of the

as you can have such assurance—that there won't be a confrontation, because the price would be too high, that there won't be a confrontation, because the price would be too high, but at the same time emphasizing that we want more than anything else to join with them in reducing the move that the price would be to join with them in reducing the move that the price would be a substantial to the work of the work o

### Shortened Term

Shortened Term

O. Mr. President, if you win a seccond term, any you about the your
cond term, any you about the your
cond to serving all four years? I said the
question only because a Washington
magazine reported — I don't know
how they knew — that you and the
First Lady had discussed the possibility of, if you went again and if the
First Lady and discussed the possibility of, if you went again and if the
First Lady and that? Have you ever
thought about that? Have you considered it or discussed it with the First
Lady in any case?

O. You did not discuss it with the
First Lady?

A. No, there's never been any such
talk at all.

**Homosexual Rights** 

posed to discrimination period.
Q. But would you support the measure, Mr. President?
A. What?
Q. Would you support that measure?

A. I want to see what else they have there.

## **Divided Society**

Divided Society

O. Mr. President, the Kerner report said the United States is moving to wait the United States is moving to wait the United States is moving the Consense of the United States is moving the Consense of the United States in Moving the Contry toward two separates and women against your civil rights policies, American Indians and women, separate societies, one of Mispanies. American Indians and women, separate and unequal?

A. I don't believe there's been any violation of either the letter or the spirit of the civil rights laws, nor would I stand for such a thing. There spirit of the civil rights laws, nor would I stand for such a thing. There would I stand for such a thing. There would I stand for such a thing. There is the state of the civil rights laws, nor would I stand for that on the part of anyone. And I think that what we have done, if we will get our information from the horse's mouth, our Administration has come more than we have done with regard to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to any of these people that you will be used to the same thing, the same basis. And the same thing, we have done we have'd toom envis the of one minorities and blacks and their place in the Government tiself.

But everything that we have done we have'd done anything that in

ities an about get wan regard to minorities and the place in the
Government list of their place in the
Government list of their place in the
Government of the area was a former
we haven't done anything that in
any way discriminated against any of
those people. We have done things
that we think are helpful.

Q. I want to follow on that. A leader
Q. I want to follow on that. A leader
week said that you are the greatest
week said that you are the greatest
in the last two decades, and they gave
fairly specific showing that you policles are attempting to reverse the
fairly specific showing that you policles are attempting to reverse the
fairly specific showing that you policles are attempting to reverse the
fairly specific showing that you policles are attempting to reverse the
fairly specific showing that he had been
fairly specific showing the leaders and
have been blaming the safety of the
modification of you underestimate
what they're suffering from?
And isn't this going to really cause a
division in this country rather than a
unified center. Unless you can convince these poople, who are the vic-

Timing for Talks